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above the level of bric-à-brac and chromos, while the father is quite content with his newspaper."<sup>1</sup>

Also, Dr. Patten's failure to recognize the splendid work that is being done in the field of sociology today, and his lack of appreciation of the achievements of his brother-scientists along lines so near to those of his own interest, are much to be regretted. Speaking of the emphasis Mill placed on the new sciences of ethology and sociology, he takes occasion to say: "The new sciences were yet to be made, and, unfortunately for Mill's reputation as a prophet, are still to be made." Mill let ethology drop, and no one has since taken it up. "Nor has sociology fared much better," he continues. "Until recently it was made up of a few analogies derived from biology, and even now it is not far enough advanced to obtain general recognition nor to have its method well defined."<sup>2</sup>

Thus, while we cannot agree with all that Dr. Patten says, while we must feel that there are important omissions in his book, while we must admit the biased attitude of the author, yet we are glad to welcome *The Development of English Thought* as an original, strong, and suggestive contribution to the economic and philosophic literature of the day.

SADIE E. SIMONS.

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*Problems of Modern Industry.* By SIDNEY AND BEATRICE WEBB.  
London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1898. Pp. 286. \$2.50.

THESE gifted writers have collected a number of papers into an interesting volume of studies of English industrial conditions. "The Diary of an Investigator" shows a shrewd observer in contact with the life of the London sewing women. "The Jews of East London" introduces us to a world little known, perhaps, to wealthy members of the same race. Two chapters are given to questions of women workers, their wages, and the factory acts which aim to protect them. The latter part of the book is an interpretation of the socialistic program from the Fabian point of view. The relationship between coöperation and trade-unionism is the subject of an important chapter. The poor law is studied in connection with the general movement for enlarging the functions of the state.

<sup>1</sup> P. 385.

<sup>2</sup> P. 332.

Since we cannot reproduce or discuss a tithe of the vital problems presented, we may select a few of the most important conclusions, typical of all. "This competitive wage we Socialists seek to replace by an allowance for maintenance deliberately settled according to the needs of the occupation and the means at the nation's command. We already see official salaries regulated, not according to the state of the labor market, but by consideration of the cost of living. This principle we seek to extend to the whole industrial world." And as to ground rents: "A socialist state or municipality will charge the full economic rent for the use of its land and dwellings, and apply that rent to the common purposes of the community."

The discussion of poor-law reform and pensions for the aged ought to be thoroughly discussed in the United States. It will soon be for us, as it is in England, a theme of practical politics.

C. R. HENDERSON.

*The Federal Census: Critical Essays by Members of the American Economic Association. Collected and edited by a Special Committee. (Publications of the American Economic Association, New Series, No. 2, March, 1899.) New York: The Macmillan Co. Pp. 4+516, 8vo. \$2.*

It is a well-known fact that the United States government spends more money for the collection and compiling of census statistics than any other nation. The cost of the previous censuses has been in round numbers, according to official figures, as follows: 1790, \$44,000; 1800, \$67,000; 1810, \$178,500; 1820, \$208,500; 1830, \$378,500; 1840, \$833,500; 1850, \$1,329,000; 1860, \$2,000,000; 1870, \$3,500,000; 1880, \$6,000,000; 1890, \$11,000,000.

That the accuracy of the 1890 census and of previous censuses is not all that could be desired, those who have followed the articles by Mr. Bliss in this and the previous volume of the Journal will be convinced.

In view of the enormous and increasing cost and the undoubted shortcomings of our census work, all will agree that the American Economic Association has done excellent service in arranging for and publishing this volume of papers by authorities on the department of statistics of which they treat.